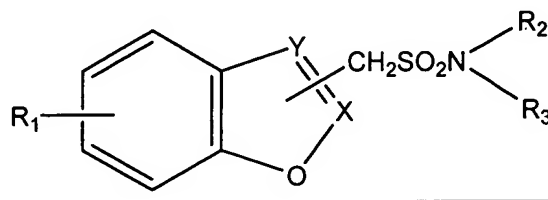


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

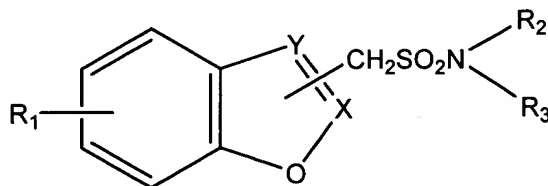
1-9 (CANCELED)

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of reducing the risk of hypertension, diabetes, or dyslipidaemia in a mammal comprising administering to a mammal in need of such reduction at least one weight-loss promoting anticonvulsant of formula (III):



wherein R₁ is hydrogen or a halogen atom, R₂ and R₃ are the same or different and are each hydrogen or an alkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, and one of X and Y is a carbon atom and another is a nitrogen atom, provided that the group -CH₂SO₂NR₂R₃ is bonded to the carbon atom of either of X and Y, or an alkali metal salt thereof, and at least one compound that enhances the activity of norepinephrine and/or dopamine in amounts such that said reduction is effected.

11. (ORIGINAL) A method of treating obesity in mammal comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment a compound of formula (III):



wherein R₁ is hydrogen or a halogen atom, R₂ and R₃ are the same or different and are each hydrogen or an alkyl having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, and one of X and Y is a carbon atom and another is a nitrogen atom, provided that the group -CH₂SO₂NR₂R₃ is

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bonded to the carbon atom of either of X and Y, or an alkali metal salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to effect said treatment.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 11 wherein said compound is zonisamide.

13-17 (CANCELED)

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of reducing weight in an overweight subject, said method comprising: administering to an overweight subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising zonisamide, in an amount effective to reduce weight in said subject, wherein said weight loss is significant and sustained.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 18, wherein said effective amount of zonisamide is in the range of about 50 to about 1000 mg/day.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 19, wherein said effective amount of zonisamide is in the range of about 100 to about 600 mg/day.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 18, wherein said overweight subject is an obese subject.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 18 wherein said pharmaceutical compositions is administered by a route selected from the group consisting of oral, parenteral, topical, injection and rectal administration.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 22, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered orally to said subject.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 18, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with another therapeutic method commonly used to reduce weight ~~treat overweight~~.

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25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 24, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with a hypocaloric diet or exercise.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 24, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with orlistat, phentermine, sibutramine, topiramate, or sibutramine hydrochloride.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of treating eating disorders in a subject in need of such treatment, said method comprising: administering to a subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising zonisamide, in an amount effective to treat eating disorders.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 27, wherein said eating disorders are binge-eating disorder, bulimia nervosa, or anorexia nervosa.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 27, wherein said effective amount of zonisamide is in the range of about 50 to about 1000 mg/day.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 29, wherein said effective amount of zonisamide is in the range of about 100 to about 600 mg/day.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 27, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered by a route selected from the group consisting of oral, parenteral, topical, injection and rectal administration.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 31, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered orally to said subject.

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33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 27, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with another therapeutic agent commonly used to treat eating disorders.

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 33, wherein said therapeutic agent is fluoxetine, topiramate, or orlistat.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of reducing weight in an overweight subject, said method comprising: administering to an overweight subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising zonisamide in an amount effective to induce weight loss in said subject, wherein the induction of weight loss is sustained during the dosing regimen.

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 35, wherein said effective amount of zonisamide is in the range of about 50 to about 100 mg/day.

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 35, wherein said effective amount of zonisamide is in the range of about 100 to about 600 mg/day.

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 35, wherein said overweight subject is an obese subject.

39. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 35, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered by a route selected from the group consisting of oral, parenteral, topical, injection and rectal administration.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 39, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered orally to said subject.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 35, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with another therapeutic method commonly used to reduce weight~~-treat overweight~~.

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42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 41, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with a hypocaloric diet or exercise.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 42, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with orlistat, phentermine, sibutramine, topiramate, or sibutramine hydrochloride.